

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Bedford Hall, Thorney
on Monday 10th June 2024 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: B. Parker, G Mills, S Williams, D Winch, Mrs K Howard, Mrs. D Halfhide,
J Shearman

Peterborough City Councillors S Allen, M. Ormston

4 Member of the public.

Public discussion –

Representatives from Thorney Football Club attended regarding their request for funds. The request is to promote further football interest to support the vital development of our girl's team, potentially expand the offering to a wider group of female children between 5 and 8 and continue to support the longer-standing boy's and men's teams, they require financial assistance with regards to providing additional equipment such as extra Balls, Posts and Poles (surface mounted), Respect Barriers etc. They also need funding to create a 'kit list / bag' for each manager for next year of all essential items for each age group team (currently 10 teams in total but highly likely to have increased again by the time the new season starts).

Cllrs Mills asked whether there could be a time where the goal posts could be put out for selected dates over the summer months as PCC have taken away the permanent goal posts for the summer, so posts would be needed as well as nets for any size of nets or the next couple of months.

The representatives will take this back to their committee.

Cllr Howard asked if they have specific items the football team needs.

It was agreed the football team would provide the Parish Council with a list items required.

Mr Hovell explained the Parish Council can only donate via S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, which would need a written application for the requested items and a copy of their accounts.

Cllr Long suggested they could also benefit from the Wryde Croft Wind Farm grant scheme.

2626/24-25 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Resolved: R Ray

2627/24-25 To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations

Resolved: To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations in any items on the agenda – If during discussion an interest becomes apparent it is declared at that time.

2628/24-25 To approve minutes of the meeting of 13 May 2024

Resolved: Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 May 2024 and bank reconciliation for the month (circulated before the meeting) were confirmed and signed by Chairman.

2629/24-25 Matters arising from minutes.

Dealt with later as agenda items

2630/24-25 Report from City Councillors.

City Cllr Ormston gave a report of a number of issues raised in the meeting last time and some raised outside of the meeting.

Cllr Allen – advised there has been some road surfacing near Old Knarr farm, more will take place. Planning application for 47 new houses Station Road- advised he was looking to 'call it in'. Will wait for public meeting date.

Tank Yard road- responsibility on the NLIDB and Fire Station. But Mr Hovell suggested checking with Sarah Cracknell at a meeting later this month

Thorney Park- costing being obtained for additional parking. Once Cllr Allen has this information he will circulate.

Planning Compliance Complaint 21/00023/ENFACC- Cllr has submitted his comments that this should be pursued once planning permission for the caravans expires on 9th July 2024. Suggested the Parish Council should submit their comments.

2631/24-25 Finance

The following were received in May/June.

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|------------|----------|
| Foodbank | £5.00 |
| Vat refund | £2664.09 |

To approve the following paid in June

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Salaries | | £3534.00 | LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50 |
| Office | | £26.00 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| email, ISP payment | | £32.18 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| Cambs County Council | | £740.29 | LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50 |
| Inland Revenue | | £1270.00 | LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50 |
| Veolia | Skip at cemetery | £ | LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1. |
| HP | Printing costs | £11.99 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| Studio 11 | Pavilion planning application | £2794.90 | Studio 11, planning application information |
| NFU | Tradesman insuranc | £555.45 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| Cemetery | Petrol for mowers | £ | Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50 |
| Redshoes Accounting | Payroll services | £133.20 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| Norton | Anti-virus | £99.99 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| RTC Groundscare | Sundry oil for equip | £37.11 | Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50 |
| Canalbs ltd | Internal Audit | £99.00 | LGA 1972 sections 111, 142 |
| D. Reed | Excavation work cemetery | £280.00 | Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50 |

1. To approve accounts for Payments and Monthly bank reconciliation
2. Grant request from Thorney Football Club. Discussed. Further information to follow
3. Solar Farm Voluntary Community Contribution – discuss and agree way forward for the voluntary community contribution particularly in respect to the new pavilion

Cllr Williams asked why they are only 25 years contribution when they have a 40-year lease. Cllr Long has contacted City Hillier to help with liaising with Solar Company.

All Cllrs were provided details of two costing projections from the Solar Farm.

Cllr Williams expressed his support for have an upfront payment of £100,000 to go to the new pavilion project and then a lower annual payment to go to Thorney Parish Council.

Cllr Long advised she supported the another option, with no upfront payment and an increased yearly contribution to go to Thorney Parish Council.

Cambridge Power contribution is voluntary, not compulsory.

Cllr Parker suggested his concerns that the funding would benefit a small number of residents.

Cllr Halfhide, the pavilion, is not just sport or leisure. All village would benefit. Advised she would support an upfront payment, but you cannot guarantee what would happen to the contributions in next 15-25 years.

A new charity would be created to own and manage new pavilion. The upfront payment would only be transferred once this was created and a bank account secured. The Parish Council would hold the money until this becomes a reality.

Cllr Mills suggested an agreement with T&C's between the Parish Council and Charity (once formed).

City Councillor Ormiston suggested Cambridge Power could increase yearly payments by inflation. He also suggested a public consultation on the money being received and how this is spent.

Cllr Allen asked if objections going to impact planning permission.

Mr Winright did highlight he is investigating various grant sources.

Solar Farm Voluntary Community Contribution has been calculated to be £15,000 per annum for 25 years is £375,000

Plus up-front payment of £100,000 to pavilion. Making a total to the Community: £475,000

With no up-front payment the current offer is for a payment of £25,000.00 per annum for 25 years, amounting to £625,000.00 for the benefit of the community.

It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Shearman and agreed (one abstention) that the upfront donation of £100,000 from Cambridge Power towards the new pavilion be accepted subject to some conditions, including and not limited to satisfactory ecological survey, successful planning application and conditions that do not make the project unsustainable, a charitable organisation drawn up with the help of ACRE with a constitution to run and administer the building only, a signed grant agreement from Cambridge Power, residents support of the money being used this way and full agreement from Peterborough CC to support the project. It was also agreed to form a committee to deal with the conditions, in conjunction with the Pavilion Management Committee

4. Internal Audit report – circulated and accepted
5. Dog poo bin Whittlesey Road - Chris Jackson Streetcare Manager, aragondirect, states the cost to install a new dog bin would be £386.21+vat and Cost of emptying would be £130+vat per year. It was proposed by Cllr Mills, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed to proceed with the quotation.
6. As of the beginning of April planning applications are required to demonstrate Bio-diversity Net Gain. To do this we need to appoint an Ecologist for a report on the new pavilion project. It was proposed by Cllr Shearman, seconded by Cllr Willams and agreed to proceed with this through Studio 11 Architects.

2632/24-25 Reports

1. New Pavilion – discussed in public session
2. Burial – Cllr Mills looking into a replacement tap fixing as the existing tap keeps being left on.

Review of fees – the existing charges were circulated before the meeting. It was proposed Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed to increase the fees by 10%.

3. Bedford Hall – Meeting 27 June @11AM with Sarah Cracknell, Peterborough City Council to discuss “we have been undertaking a locality review of all our community assets. One of the decisions was to explore relocating the library and food hub to Bedford Hall and use Bedford Hall as a Community Hub for the area. As you may or may not be aware, we have had some discussions with the Management Committee but recognise that as the head lessee, we should be discussing this with you to establish the Parish Council's views on the proposal. If you are happy with the proposals, we would need to make some changes to the lease as we are looking to incorporate the use of the Thorney Tank Yard buildings into any new agreement/plans. It would also be useful to use this as an opportunity to clear up any ambiguity regarding some of the clauses in the lease where responsibilities are unclear”.

4. Allotments – Some vandalism at half term. Many high energy drink cans left on one allotment

Review of fees – at present each allotment has a charge of £35 per year. Several tenants now keep fowl and as such there has been an increase in water usage and requirements rodent control. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded Cllr Parker and agreed that a two-tier rental should be introduced. A standard allotment will be £50 and an allotment with livestock will be £100.00 annually.

Footpath along main footpath need trimming.

5. Forge Field – Grass cutting did not take place as agreed, Cllr Long to chase.

2633/24-25 Planning

1. Approvals and Refusals

24/00384/HHFUL for Proposed single storey front and rear extension at Harriman's Barn Old Knarr Fen Drove Thorney Peterborough Decision: Withdrawn by Applicant

2. Planning Applications and other matters.

24/00430/FUL For Proposed storage units (B8) with enlarged hardstanding, revised entrance gate and provision of security fencing at Dalmark Grain Knarr Farm Wisbech Road Thorney- no objections

24/00622/FUL For Construction of one 4no bedroom dwelling and annexe at Stonebridge Bungalow Stonebridge Corner North Side Thorney. Overdevelopment of site.

24/00697/PRIOR For Conversion of agricultural barn to 4 small and 1 large residential units at Butchers Farm Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough. Poor access- on a speeding hotspot, on bend with poor visibility, in a flood plain, concerns that the building contains asbestos and no details on how this contamination will be dealt with.

24/00715/HHFUL Ankerig Gas Lane Thorney - Proposal: Proposed ground floor side extension and garage conversion to annex also render whole property with white silicone render. Conservation officer stated new brickwork should match existing. Site inspection for PC planning committee

24/00552/FUL Station Road Thorney Peterborough - Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 47 dwellings with associated drainage, car parking and landscaping – **Date for public meeting: 25th June 2024 @ 7pm.** Mr Hovell to apply for a planning extension for comments from the Parish Council.

2634/24-25 Roads and Footpaths

1. Speeding in village - Peterborough City Council CLF has one speed indicating unit to be installed along Whittlesey Road. Thorney Parish Council still awaiting installation costs from Peterborough City Council Highways.

2. Speedwatch- 137 vehicles recorded on Whittlesey Road, 28 vehicles doing 31mph-34, 20 vehicles doing over 35mph, 4 over 43mph.

3. Sign at cemetery- PCC cannot provide a suitable sign. Cllrs raised their concerns about the potential accidents and Highway Officer has dismissed our suggestion of suitable signage. Cllr Willams suggested having hedge cut back so the chevron signs and cemetery entrance can be seen. The hedge/trees are on the left side coming from Whittlesey obscure the view of the cemetery entrance

4. Hedge at entrance to park- overgrown and needs trimming.

5. Following an email by a Councillor to the Conservation Officer at Peterborough City Council concerning heavy lorry movements on Whittlesey Road the reply was

"I sympathise with the situation however neither I nor the council generally have any power to affect the situation generally. If the lorries are from the quarries to the west and southwest and are breaching their travel plans, then this is something we can seek to rectify. However, my knowledge of the situation (for which I'm happy to be corrected if you have evidence to the contrary) is that the lorries are just traversing from locations in Fenland to the A47, using their rights to the highway. As so, I'm not sure what I can do or be expected to do. If you have any specific proposals, I would be happy to hear them, although I suspect that they would be better directed to your Unitary Councillors.

In terms of the damage, there have been various studies regarding the impact of lorries on Listed buildings. The one I cannot find now but had been submitted when I worked in a different authority (at a grade I Listed church 10m from the highway), found no evidence of impact. Admittedly this was not a long-term study nor on a ruin with less structural stability.

The impact of heavy-duty lorries on Listed buildings is a concern in numerous locations around the country for both residents and conservation officers. I and my conservation colleagues have sought to find a long-term assessment of the impact of heavy traffic on Listed buildings however we have yet to see one. If you do find one, please pass it on to me.

It is very good to hear that current owners upkeep their properties to a good standard, and I look forward to their continued good maintenance ensuring that the significance of the Listed buildings are retained".

2635/24-25 Village matters.

1. Warm Welcome – will continue through to the end of the year.
2. Youth activities in village- Cllr Mills has a meeting on 11th June 2024 with Bryonie (who runs Phoenix Youth Provision in Whittlesey). A working group would need to be set up with Treasurer, secretary and group members. In the meantime, could we look to get any interested children to the Eye or Whittlesey Youth Groups.
FACT- could provide a minibus service at a cost of £15.00. But need to be a member before we can get a price. Decided not to provide with bus idea.
Cllr Howard suggested a questionnaire to the children regarding what they want from a Youth group.
3. Christmas Tree near Crossroads- no further update
4. Picnic in the Park- 11th August 2024 from midday.
Looking for a food van and ice cream van.
Mr Hovell will liaise with Peterborough CC for a grass cut prior to the event.
Thorney Society, football club, rugby club all invited.
5. Letter of thanks from Abbey for Mr Lucken's work in burial area. Also informing Thorney Parish Council of temporary toilet on The Green for various Abbey functions through the summer months.

2636/24-25 Parish Council Vacancies

It was agreed to advertise on Facebook.

2637/24-25 Facebook Posts

Heavy traffic concerning recent grass cutting in Park- which is the responsibility of Peterborough CC.

Bollard on entrance from Tavistock Close not being replaced correctly- Mr Hovell to chase Peterborough CC.

2638/24-25 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.

- Public meeting concerning Whittlesey Road with Peterborough City Council Officers - Tuesday 23rd July suggested @ 7pm.
- Consider Notice Board on grassed area near the Rose and Crown
- Co-option

2639/24-25 Parish Council business

2409/24-25 Date of next meeting - Parish Council Meeting 8th July 2024
Meeting Closed at 21:47pm.